

Message Text

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ORIGIN NEA-05

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DRAFTED BY:NEA/WSBUTCHER

APPROVED BY:NEA:WSBUTCHER

S/S-O - P. P. SARROS

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P 060610Z OCT 73

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 199571

S/S FOR ASST SECY SISCO

FOLLOWING COLOMBO 2515 SENT ACTION TO YOU QUOTE

C O N F I D E N T I A L COLOMBO 2515

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EAID, CE

SUBJ: USG ASSISTANCE FOR SRI LANKA

REFS: COLOMBO 2457; STATE 197167

I WAS VERY GRATIFIED TO NOTE FROM SISCO-KANAKARATNE MEETING THAT PL 480 POSSIBILITIES FOR SRI LANKA ARE STILL UNDER REVIEW. POTENTIALLY SERIOUS POLITICAL REPERCUSSIONS OF US FAILURE TO DELIVER, WHICH WERE NOTED COLOMBOS 2457, WERE REFLECTED IN KANAKARATNE'S PRESENTATION INCLUDING POSSIBLY ADVERSE IMPACT ON GOOD RELATIONSHIP ESTABLISHED BETWEEN PM BANDARANAIKE AND PRESIDENT NIXON. YESTERDAY'S PARLIAMENTARY DEBATE HERE, REPORTED SEPTTEL, ALSO POINTS UP POLITICAL IMPORTANCE OF PL 480. I WISH AGAIN TO RECOMMEND THAT WE MOVE PROMPTLY TO PROVIDE \$15-18 MILLION IN WHEAT FLOUR FOR FOURTH QUARTER FY 74. IF THIS SHOULD NOT PROVE FEASIBLE, AND IT BECOMES NECESSARY TO TELL CEYLONENE PL 480 DOOR IS CLOSED, CONFIDENTIAL

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I RECOMMEND THAT WE DO SO QUICKLY AND THAT WE BE PREPARED

AT THE SAME TIME TO TELL CEYLONENSE WE HAVE FOUND OTHER WAYS
TO BE EQUALLY HELPFUL. VAN HOLLEN UNQUOTE RUSH

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